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Encyclopedic Digest of Virginia and West Virginia Reports, it enables any one not only to determine the present value of the Virginia cases therein annotated, but to find the whole case law on the point decided with celerity and accuracy.

D., Jr.

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**Handbook of the Law of Surety and Guarantee**—By Frank Hall Childs, L. L. B., late lecturer on Suretyship and Guaranty. Chicago-Kent-College of Law. St. Paul, Minn. West Pub. Co. 1907. Price \$3.75, delivered.

No series of text books published in the last quarter of a century has been of greater use to student and practitioner than the Hombook Series. These works have been concise, and in most instances clear and able statements of the law—carefully systematized and presented in a manner calculated to bring out the important principles, fixing them alike upon the eye and the mind.

This arrangement of the subjects, whilst intended primarily for the student, has proven no less valuable to the lawyer in active practice, enabling him to find the law more readily and fix it in the memory.

The latest addition to this series is the work on Surety and Guarantee mentioned above. It is well prepared and in a concise and clear way sets out the salient principles of the law on the subject. A case is referred to for nearly every principle laid down and the law brought up to date.

A new feature in this work is the printing of the names of cases which are to be found in collections of cases of this subject in capital letters, thus enabling one to refer to the works themselves in the light of the cases. It is a valuable addition to this valuable series, and the latest work on this subject.

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**Handbook of the Law of Evidence.** By John J. McKelvey, A. M., L. L. B., Author of Common Law Pleadings, etc. 2nd Edition Revised. St. Paul, Minn. West Pub. Co., 1907. Price \$3.75, delivered.

The first edition of this work was the first one of the Hombook Series purchased by the writer. He was so much pleased with the work, its method and general arrangement that it led to the purchase of many of the other volumes. Having used the old edition frequently the writer can say that a cursory examination of this second edition has convinced him that it has made good, better. Whilst the principles of evidence are now very well settled, there is always room for a more satisfactory statement of many of them. The chapter on Judicial Notice has been entirely re-written to meet a more experienced and different point of view. So also important changes have been made in the treatment of Burden of Proof, Presumptions, Admissions and Writings. The work states principles, illustrating them with applications, and as stated in the preface "with some discussion of the manner of their development. The consequence of this method leads to a scientific treatment of the law instead of a mere compilation of cases. No other subject in the law stands upon as logical and scientific a basis as the laws of Evidence and no lawyer can pretend to be well versed in this branch of our science who is not thoroughly grounded upon the great basic principles which lie at its foundation. This book will prove an admirable aid to anyone who desires to learn first principles and to ground himself in the science of the law of Evidence.